Department of Biological Sciences
(212) 772-[redacted]
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Dr. George Hashim,
Ass. Res. Director,
The Council for Tobacco Research,
900 3rd Ave.,
New York, NY 10022

18th May '94

March 9, 1995

Dear Dr. Hashim,

I am organizing a colloquium at the 1995 meeting of the American Society for Neurochemistry, to be held in Santa Monica, California. The title of the colloquium is "**New Developments on the Functioning of Myelin Associated Glycoprotein (MAG).**" The speakers and the topics are as follows:

Dr. John Roder (Toronto, Canada) --- Behavioral, morphological and biochemical characterization of MAG knockout mice.

Dr. Paul Crocker (Oxford, England) --- Binding characteristics and identification of the MAG receptor.

Dr. Tadashi Yamamoto (Tokyo, Japan) --- The interaction of MAG with Fyn and signal transduction.

Dr. Marie T. Filbin (New York, USA) --- The ability of MAG to inhibit or to promote neurite outgrowth.

Recently, as can be seen from the titles of the talks, there have been many new and exciting advances in elucidating the functioning of MAG. In particular, the novel observation that MAG is a potent inhibitor of neurite outgrowth may have important therapeutic value in the long-term with respect to defining conditions that would permit nerve regeneration after injury. In addition, the role of MAG in myelination has also progressed tremendously; how MAG signals and identification of the MAG receptor will soon be revealed.

To bring together scientists at the forefront of this research meant bringing together people from four different countries; England, Canada, Japan and USA. The expenses of the speakers are not covered by the American Society for Neurochemistry, so I must raise the funds from other sources otherwise the colloquium will not take place. As your research foundation is interested in supporting basic research I am therefore asking for a contribution towards the travel/accommodation of the speakers. I am trying to raise $3,500. If you can provide some support, an acknowledgment will be printed in the program.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Marie T. Filbin

Marie T. Filbin Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Phone 212 772 5270
FAX 212 772 5227

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